

Message Text

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TAGS: OVIP (MORTON)

SUBJ: VISIT OF SECRETARY OF COMMERCE MORTON, OCT 8-9, 1975

REF: BUDAPEST 3179

1. BELOW IS THE PROPOSED DRAFT TOAST FOR USE BY COMMERCE SECRETARY MORTON AT THE OCTOBER 9 LUNCHEON TO BE HOSTED BY HUNGARIAN FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER JOZSEF BIRO:

2. MR. MINISTER, ETC ...

FOR MANY YEARS I HAVE HOPED THAT I MIGHT SOMEDAY VISIT HUNGARY. THE PAST 24 HOURS -- PACKED AS THEY HAVE BEEN -- HAVE MERELY SERVED TO WHET MY APPETITE TO LEARN MORE OF YOUR LAND, YOUR PEOPLE AND YOUR ECONOMY. HUNGARY IS A LAND RESPECTED AND ESTEEMED IN THE UNITED STATES -- AS IN OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD -- FOR ITS RICH CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE REALMS OF CULTURE AND SCIENCE.

3. THE SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF HUNGARY HAVE HELPED TO SHAPE THE HISTORY AND DEVELOPMENT OF AMERICA. TWO CENTURIES AGO HUNGARIAN HUSZARS (PR HOOSARS) TOOK PART IN THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION, OUR WAR OF INDEPENDENCE, FIGHTING GALLANTLY IN THE ARMY OF GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON. HUNGARIANS ALSO FOUGHT IN THE UNION ARMY OF PRESIDENT LINCOLN AND MANY GAVE THEIR LIVES THAT

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THE AMERICAN EXPERIMENT MIGHT CONTINUE AND SLAVERY BE

ABOLISHED. THE GREAT FREEDOM FIGHTER OF THE HUNGARIAN REVOLUTION OF 1848, LAJOS KOSSUTH, RECEIVED A HERO'S WELCOME WHEN HE CAME TO THE UNITED STATES. HE WAS THE FIRST FOREIGNER EVER TO ADDRESS A JOINT SESSION OF THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS. HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF AMERICANS OF HUNGARIAN ANCESTRY LIVE IN OUR COUNTRY. ALL AMERICANS ACKNOWLEDGE WITH GRATITUDE THE CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE ARTS, MUSIC, SCIENCE, EDUCATION, TO EVERY FORM OF HUMAN ENDEAVOR, WHICH SO MANY MEN AND WOMEN OF HUNGARIAN ORIGIN HAVE MADE TO THE DEVELOPMENT AND ENRICHMENT OF AMERICAN LIFE. AND SO, DESPITE DIFFERENCES IN SOCIAL SYSTEMS WE FIND OURSELVES, AMERICANS AND HUNGARIANS, BOUND BY A COMMON HERITAGE, BY HISTORICAL, CULTURAL, AND BLOOD TIES.

4. PRESIDENT FORD AND SECRETARY KISSINGER HAVE STATED CLEARLY ON MANY OCCASIONS THE COMMITMENT OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT TO A POLICY OF DETENTE BASED ON MUTUAL INTEREST AND RECIPROCAL BENEFITS, TO A POLICY OF RESPECT AND GENUINE COOPERATION BETWEEN COUNTRIES WITH DIFFERENT SOCIAL SYSTEMS.

5. THE FACT THAT MY VISIT HERE WAS ENCOURAGED BY PRESIDENT FORD IS YET ANOTHER MANIFESTATION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES' INTEREST IN FURTHER HASTENING THE NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES AND THE PEOPLE THEY REPRESENT. WE HAVE INDEED MADE PROGRESS, PARTICULARLY IN OUR ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL RELATIONS, SINCE MY FRIEND AND PREDECESSOR FREDERICK DENT VISITED BUDAPEST TWO YEARS AGO. IN SPITE OF THE ABSENCE OF MOST FAVORED NATION TREATMENT -- WHICH I ASSURE YOU MY DEPARTMENT AND THE FORD ADMINISTRATION CONTINUE TO PUSH FOR -- DIRECT TRADE AND COOPERATION BETWEEN OUR TWO LANDS CONTINUE TO INCREASE. ALTHOUGH THE UNITED STATES WILL NEVER BE HUNGARY'S MAJOR TRADING PARTNER, WE LOOK FORWARD TO MAKING ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF THE HUNGARIAN ECONOMY. WE LOOK WITH PRIDE AT FIRMS SUCH AS CORNING, FAIRCHILD, STEIGER, CORN PRODUCTION SYSTEMS, JOHN DEERE, AND IBM WHICH ALREADY PLAY AN ONGOING ROLE IN YOUR COMMERCIAL LIFE. WE NOTE WITH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PLEASURE THAT ADDITIONAL U.S. FIRMS SUCH AS FIRST NATIONAL CITY BANK, DOW, AND SINGER MAY SOON BE SETTING UP OFFICES IN BUDAPEST.

6. FINALLY, WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING MORE FINE HUNGARIAN PRODUCTS ON OUR OWN DOMESTIC MARKET WHICH REMAINS RELATIVELY UNTAPPED BY YOUR EXPORTERS.

7. MR. MINISTER, AS I PREPARE TO LEAVE HUNGARY AFTER AN ALL TOO SHORT VISIT, I WISH TO EXPRESS MY GRATITUDE TO YOU FOR YOUR WARM HOSPITALITY, FOR THE OPEN, CIVILIZED, AND CONSTRUCTIVE WAY IN WHICH WE WERE ABLE TO CARRY ON OUR TALKS, AND FOR THE DELIGHTFUL SAMPLES OF HUNGARIAN BEAUTY AND CHARM WHICH THIS VISIT AFFORDED ME AND MRS. MORTON. I RETURN TO THE UNITED STATES WITH WARM FEELINGS TOWARDS HUNGARIANS, WITH A BROADER AND DEEPER IMPRESSION OF YOUR COUNTRY AND ITS PEOPLE, AND WITH A REINFORCED CONVICTION THAT OUR IMPROVING RELATIONS, WHICH CANNOT FAIL TO BENEFIT YOUR CITIZENRY AS WELL AS OURS, WILL CONTRIBUTE TO THE STRENGTHENING OF WORLD PEACE AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION.

6. I WOULD NOW LIKE TO RAISE MY GLASS AND PROPOSE A TOAST TO THE PEOPLE OF HUNGARY, TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE HUNGARIAN PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC. MAY OUR TRADE INCREASE AND FLOW AS FREELY AS THE DANUBE AND MAY IT BE OF THE SAME HIGH QUALITY AS YOUR EXQUISITE WINES.
MCAULIFFE

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